



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

04/13/2011 Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2011 MEETING Approved May 17, 2011

In attendance: Joey Glushko, Mary Harrison, William Hayner, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Josh Lobel.

- The **minutes** of the March meeting were accepted as presented.

Census Survey:

- Results have been reported to the School Committee and the Selectmen and will be put on the Town website. Only about 50 copies will be printed.
- Andrew Fischer has tallied the written comments by category. Josh has the on-line comments.
- Task group sign-ups total 165 on paper, some for multiple groups; more sign-ups on-line: Culture & Recreation 26, Communication 17, Business 12, Citizen Service 10, Diversity 15, Education 78, Reservoir 17, Spy Pond 18, Sustainable Arlington 40, Fiscal Resources 13, Governance 13.
- The survey shows support for an override and for Pay As You Throw. It is not a scientific poll, but those who bother to respond are also those who are likely to bother to vote. Late returns (about 80 so far) are running 66% in favor of an override and PAYT.
- Bill Hayner suggested a disclaimer on the next survey that the answers are not personally identifiable (unless the respondent uses the survey form to sign up for a task group); if it is submitted with the census form, the two are separated before the survey is looked at.

Task Group and Event Reports:

- The Job Fair was well attended – 240 people came, the most racially diverse group so far. Again some announced companies didn't show up but five came unannounced.
- Candidates' Night also went well.
- The EcoFest went very well. Speaker Bill Reed generated so much interest that he stayed an extra hour answering questions. The high school students created a spectacular display from the bottle caps they collected around the school in only two weeks. EcoFest will be repeated in March 2012.
- The Spy Pond Committee will have two events in early May: "Spy Pond Stories: Fish, Fables, and Tall Tales" with several speakers on May 3 at 7 p.m. in the Selectmen's Hearing Room, and the seventh annual "Trails Day" to clean up and remove invasives from the path along Rt. 2 on May 7, 9-1.
- The Reservoir Committee is busy planning the installation of the habitat garden at the new overflow structure in the renovated dam.
- Sustainable Arlington is exploring the possibility of curbside pick-up of compostables with an on-line survey on composting until May 14, which has about 300 replies so far. DEP recommends not trying curbside compost pickup unless PAYT is in place. SA is also trying to promote MassSAVE's home energy audits.
- On April 28 there will be a public meeting at Temple Beth-El in Belmont on the planned "Belmont Uplands" housing project which threatens to aggravate flooding problems. Vision 2020 agreed to lend the name of its Environment Task Group as co-sponsor.

Other Business:

- Warrant articles: No strategy needed for the waterbodies article. On the no-wake article, the crew has agreed to cooperate and the Selectmen have been notified about what the crew has agreed to do. The Selectmen have recommended "no action" but a member of the Friends of Spy Pond Park may offer a substitute motion.
- Selectmen decided to separate the PAYT and override questions and postpone PAYT to next year or consider it if the override fails.
- Year-end event: June 16 was suggested for the date and the Boys & Girls Club for the location. Jane will check.
- The next Standing Committee meeting will be Tuesday, May 17 in the Annex second floor room.